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LSU SHREVEPORT

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September 14, 2000 | *The Almagest* | Volume 38, Number 3
If this feels big, it's because it's sixteen.

Overall LSUS enrollment has decreased by 170 students

by Rachael Leone

Overall enrollment at the University for the fall semester is 170 students less than last fall, according to numbers released by the Registrar's Office last week.

The drop is primarily in continuing students, which Chancellor Marsala attributes to the fact that LSUS may not offer the degree program a student is interested in.

Marsala said the administration is working to get several more degree programs to retain students, including a bachelor's of science in wellness and community health, a bachelor's of science in applied computing, a master's in health care administration and a master's of science in counseling and psychology.

In addition to adding new degree programs, Marsala said the University is developing other ways to attract new students. Among those are a marketing program funded by a $50,000 grant through the LSU system from the Board of Regents.

Marsala said the marketing program, being developed by Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Dr. Gloria Raines, could possibly consist of television commercials and print advertising, and will be aimed at attracting new students.

The fact that there are two local colleges in the area that offer more remedial courses than LSUS does may be another reason for the decline in enrollment, Marsala said.

"We have gotten away from the remedial courses, so some people are going to BPCC or SU-S for that," Marsala said.

Continued on pg 12

Sexual assualt reported at UC Apartments

by Matthew Morris

An alleged sexual assault was reported at the University Court Apartments on Sept. 5th, according to Campus Police Chief Ronald Parker.

The alleged assault took place at approximately 10 p.m. Sept. 5th but wasn't reported to campus police until 10 a.m. the next day.

The incident is currently under investigation by campus police and the Shreveport Police Department. Because of the continuing investigation, Parker could not comment on specifics of the case.

Detective Kim Lowe of SPD told the *Almagest* that she couldn't comment on the case because it involves a juvenile.

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Hell's bells!

What is going on with the bells in Bronson Hall?

by Kahalia Barley

Many argue that the bells on campus make the university feel like high school. But, have you noticed that Bronson Hall didn't have bells for the first two weeks of the semester? It was rumored that the bells were voted out last semester and that they were out of order. Well, in fact both are actually true. By a vote of four to one, the college of Liberal Arts last Tuesday decided that they want the bells turned off in Bronson Hall. This will have to wait until the college of Liberal Arts gets agreement from the college of Science because its bells are connected with Bronson Hall's. So, the bells will remain on.

Photo by Mark Rogers

This bell in the college of Liberal Arts smiles even though it's been smothered with a towel.

But, the bells sometimes help those long-winded professors and the students who like to sleep in-between classes or step outside to take a smoke. Many professors try to keep up with the time so that they don't go over but some fail. Of course the students play a role in this by becoming restless and by packing up ones book bag when it would be normally time to be dismissed.

Even though many worry that the campus feels like high school with bells ringing all day long, students have an opportunity to voice their opinion about the matter. You can contact either the Almagest or the Dean of Liberal Arts, Dr. Merrell Knighten with your opinions and remember that as apart of LSUS you do have a voice in this process.

The Almagest

("al-meh-jest". n): Arabic: "The Majestic"
any of several medieval treatises on a branch of knowledge (as the 9th century Arabic translation of Ptolemy's Greek work on astronomy)
- Webster's Third New International Dictionary

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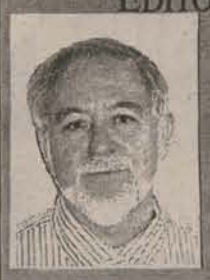

JOHN TABOR
OMBUDSMAN AND FACULTY ADVISOR

Got a story?
Call the Almagest at 797-5328 Email us at *almagest@pilot.lsus.edu*

The Almagest Letters Policy

The Almagest requests your reactions through Letters to the Editor. Letters should be typed and double spaced. Please include your class and major field of study. Letters should be submitted to ***The Almagest*** office, BH 344, by noon on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed. ***The Almagest*** reserves the right to edit letters. ❑

The Almagest is a member of the Southeastern Journalism Conference, American College Press Association, and the Columbia Scholastic Press Association

From the editor

Once again, we here at The Almagest have been slaving away to fight the darkness of ignorance and advance with the torch of truth. In this week's issue, enrollment and crime are on the cover; two issues where many myths exist.

The first myth is that LSUS is growing. It's not, and in fact it seems to be shrinking. There are more freshmen coming in than before, but they seem to be leaving even faster. Retention rates here are awful. Why? It seems that students are coming to LSUS only to find that they don't like it here, so this negates the theory that LSUS needs increased community visibility. The visibilty for members of the community attending classes and then dropping is just fine. They are obviously seeing something that they don't like and it is driving them away.
What is it? What's driving students away in the afternoons and permanantly after their first year. Is it the bells? Tuition increase? Inadequate parking? Mandatory safety fee? Lack of social life? Lack of dormitories? Lack of state funding? All the cigarette butts everywhere? Lack of sports? THE ALMAGEST!?! What? What could possibly be driving students away after their first year?

Maybe they were just lame students who would have dropped out no matter where they went to college. Maybe they were just destined to leave.

Most of the students who leave are undeclared majors. Undecided and waiting for something or someone to grab them and point them in the right direction (with maybe even a swift kick in the backside to motivate them), it has been argued that these students eventually withdraw because of a lack of guidance.

Well that's not our fault. We here at The Almagest are dedicated to informing and enlightening each and every single student on this campus. We want students to know what LSUS has to offer. More importantly we want students to be successful Success in school generally leads to success in life.

We also want students to live long enough to be successful, hence we approach a second myth at LSUS: that there is no crime on campus.

There is crime here. Not as much as some places, but it's here, and as soon as people ignore it, it flares up. That's why we put it on the cover. If crime can't hide, then maybe it will go away. Kind of like the ignored freshmen.

Mark Rogers, Editor-in-Chief

Calendar of events

Thu Sept. 14
Student Success Series-Minimizing stress 10:30am UC Theater, and Your Responsibility in the Community UC Caddo/Bossier 10:30am

Psi Chi meeting BE 344 10:30am

PRSSA meeting Bronson 336 10:30am

Fri Sept. 15
Almagest deadline

Sat Sept. 16
SW S'port Rotary Club scholarship fundraiser- jumbalya dinners for sale $5...10am-5pm in the parking lot of the Sam's Club on Jewella

The S'port Little Theatre presents "Run For Your Wife" by Ray Clooney @ 8pm Tix $13 adult, $11 student. Call 424-4439 for info.

Sun Sept. 17
Rest

Mon Sept. 18
Video Bingo 7:30-10pm UC Ballroom

Math Dept. Seminar Careers in Actuarial Consulting Bronson Hall 405

Tue Sept. 19
FREE SUBS! 10:30-11am UC

Career Success Series: ***Interviews*** 10:30am in UC Red River Room

Student Success Series-How to give better presentations- UC Louisiana A&B 10:30am

Society of Reason meeting 5pm UC 2nd floor

Wed Sept. 20
Student Success Series Leadership...why it matters UC Louisiana A&B noon

Section 8 improv, sketch, and musical comedy @ Micheal Mann's 9:00pm $5 cover call 865-4556

Thu Sept. 21
New Almagest

DJ Mixing 10:30-11am

Student Success Series-Money-learn the benefits of budget and the dangers of credit cards 10:30 UC Theater and Leadership...why it matters UC Louisiana A&B 10:30am

Fri Sept. 22
Almagest deadline

S'port Litttle Theatre presents "Run For Your Wife" @ 8pm 424-4439

Sat Sept. 23
Carnatic Music Concert (South Indian classical) 6pm UC Theater. Gen. Adm. $15, Stu. ID FREE!

Sun Sept. 24
S'port Little Theatre presents "Run For Your Wife" @ 2pm call 424-4439

Letters to the editor

To Mr. Rogers and All Who Dwell in Your Neighborhood,

I'm writing in response to the letter in the last edition of the *Almagest* from those concerned **freshmen** who commented on my "irresponsible" beer article. I could go on for pages about this, but I'm going to narrow it down to the points I feel strongest about. First of all, it seems to me that Mr. Brownfield, Mr. Barnaby, and Ms. Goza insulted everybody under the age of 21 on this campus by inferring that they were not mature enough to even *read* about beer. This also leads me to believe that they don't agree with or believe in our United States Constitution, which clearly states in the Bill of Rights that we are guaranteed freedom of speech. Now boys and girls, just because the alcohol-drinking age is 21, does that make the age to read about alcohol also 21? No. Going on; their letter also gives off a holier than thou vibe, so I guess our brilliant writers never saw a PG movie without a parental guardian and have only recently seen their first rated R movie. (Congrats on that by the way) Also, in response to the comment,"There is not even a warning or suggestion of a maximum amount of sugar to use". (NOTE-you can change the alcohol content of beer by adding more or less sugar) Well duh, I clearly mentioned prior to listing the instructions, "…here's a **basic** step by step guide", basic being the key word here guys. Also, try doing a little research before you write. Had you researched home brewing any, or beer at all for that matter, you would know that the more sugar/alcohol you add, the more bitter and vinegar-like the beer becomes. Finally, I thought it unbelievably funny that these people thought that someone might begin drinking via making their own beer. C'mon!, (snicker, snicker), who in their right mind would decide to start drinking, and then wait 7-21 days to brew their own beer.?!? No offense to you guys, but if you're going to take the time out of your busy little lives to write something, make it something, oh…I dunno, not a complete pile of absurd b.s. (Mr. Brownfield, Mr.Barnaby, Ms. Goza, feel free to see me for explanation of "b.s.")

Non-Stop Laughingly Yours,
J. Willoughby

Dear Editor,

After reading the Aug. 31st letter to the editor, "Beer article was irresponsible," I felt J. Willoughby's featured article needed to be justified.

People are going to drink whether an article is written on the subject or not. Since people are drinking regardless, they might as well save some money by home-brewing rather than buying beer from the stores. This is a weekly college newspaper, not an anti-alcohol campaign. Willoughby meant no harm by his article, and I am sure he did not create any.

The article was not irresponsible. The only irresponsibility comes from the drinking manners of the drinkers themselves. Come on guys, it was only an article on beer. This is college so have some fun. Loosen up!

Jamie Douglas
Sophomore
Journalism major

Dear Editor,

I am writing in regards to the response of Mr. Willoughby's "Got Beer?" article. Mr. Barnaby and Mr. Brownfield fail to realize certain key factors that they blew out of proportion. First of all, the *average* age of students at LSUS is 27, therefore making the average student old enough to drink. While there are students who are not of age to drink, there is no law stating that it is illegal to READ about beer. Also, students that drink can save money by brewing their own beer. This is correct. If a student chooses to brew his/her own beer, then they can definitely choose how much sugar and/or how strong they want their beer to be. Homebrew isn't the best beer money can buy, when made correctly, but if someone can choke down Mr Beer's homemade moonshine/car lubricant they deserve at least to be hospitalized.

The point I am trying to make is this: Mr. Willoughby's article was not irresponsible. It was not a persuasive article trying to get underage kids to drink. It was aimed at letting the average student know what many people including Mr. Willoughby have found out: Homebrew is cheap and fun. I do agree, however, with the last paragraph of these young men's letter. Alcohol has the potential to be destructive. If a student lets alcohol become a problem within his/her life, then who is to blame except for the student? People make bad decisions, the beer article not being one of them. So we should not point fingers towards individual opinions. If there are any fingers to be pointed, we should point them at ourselves. We as individuals make our own decisions to be suit our needs, and no one else can decide what is best for you.

Sincerely,
Blake Smurf

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Greco Institute Courses, Fall Semester, 2000

Location	Course	Day	Dates	Time
Catholic Center	A New Look at Vatican II	M	9/18-11/6	7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Catholic Center	Canon Law	TU	9/19-10/24	6:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Catholic Center	Introducción a la Teologia	TH	9/7-11/16	7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Catholic Center	Paul's Letter to the Romans	TU	9/19-11/14	9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Catholic Center	Wisdom Literature	W	9/20-11/15	9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Catholic Center	Protesters and Reformers	TH	9/21-11/9	9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Sacred Heart	Protesters and Reformers	W	9/20-11/8	7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
St. Catherine of Siena	The Story of the Mass	TU	10/3-11/28	7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
St. John Berchmans	Luke's Gospel	TU	9/19-11/14	6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
St. Joseph	End Time Scriptures	M	9/18-11/13	7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
St. Mary of the Pines	Jesus For Us Today	TH	9/21-11/9	7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
St. Pius X	Sacraments	W	9/20-11/15	7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

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SGA concerned with University Court Apartment policies

by Scott Balcerzak

Recently, there has been discussion within the Student Government Association (SGA) concerning the policies established in the relationship between the University Court Apartments and LSUS. These policies deal directly with the apartment complex's ability to place a hold on the transcripts and grades of residents who have neglected to pay their rent or have some other type of debt to the apartments. While official action has yet to be taken within the SGA, some senators have made it known that they believe such policies unfairly single out LSUS students by neglecting to equally penalize residents from other universities who also reside at the apartments.

In a Sept. 5th interview, Sharon Manson, managing director of the University Court Apartments, said that residents neglecting to pay their rent is a common problem and the holding of grades or transcripts usually affects close to 20 residents per semester. "I know this seems like a hassle to LSUS students," Manson said. "But we usually try to work with a tenant as best we can before it gets to this point."

When asked about the controversy surrounding what some students view as an unfair targeting of LSUS students, Manson said that she has heard the complaints before. She also pointed out that the apartments are still primarily populated by LSUS students and that less than 10 percent of the residents are from other schools. "I would personally prefer to house nothing but LSUS students," Manson said. "We only rent out to (students from) other schools if there are openings. In fact, most of our activities are worked around LSUS students' schedules and we don't even recruit at other colleges." Manson also stated that it is policy when dealing with non-LSUS students to report their debts to a collection agency, which results in damaging the former resident's credit rating.

SGA Senator Madiha Jamil believes that many of the problems at the apartments come from basic misunderstandings between the apartment management and the residents, an obstacle she hopes to eliminate with the creation of a committee that will include residents, managers, and, possibly, LSUS administrators. "The plans are still in the early stages, but I think it would be a very positive step if this committee goes through," Jamil said. "I believe it could help with the usual types of communication problems there are between the apartment complex and the students." Jamil and Manson have recently met and both have agreed that such a committee could be helpful when addressing many of the issues which are commonplace within the complex.

Overall, debt-related issues are some of the only problems that the apartments deal with by directly taking advantage of their partnership with LSUS. Despite the fact that the apartments are closely tied to the campus and apartment policy states that all students need to follow the rules stated within the LSUS Student Code of Conduct, Manson maintains that most of the problems that come up with residents are dealt with internally within the complex. "We try to handle problems 'in house' as much as possible," Manson said. "It usually has to be a felony offense for us to pass it off to the Student Board of Conduct." She also stated that such occurrences are relatively rare when compared to other campuses. "Most of our complaints are usually noise-related," Manson said.

University Court Apartments offer safety and security

by Anitra Kelly

Safety and security are two of the many factors students consider when they choose their college residence. The University Court Apartments provide this safety and security, according to Sharon Manson, the managing director at the University Court Apartments, "This gated community has uniformed police officers on duty 24 hours a day to improve, serve and protect the quality and convenience of campus life by enforcing crime prevention regulations. They share this responsibility with the residents in preserving a private environment. Six trained, upper-class students, referred to as community assistants or CA's, handle the minor disputes, complaints and compromises between its residents."

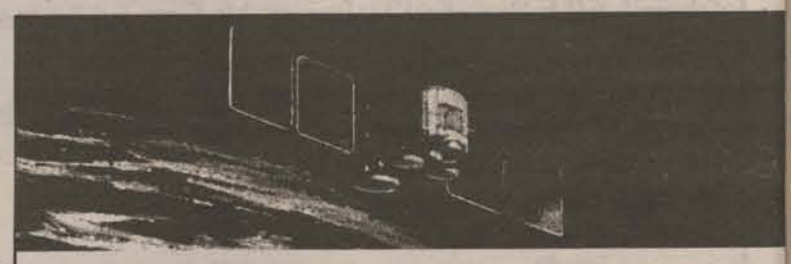
Manson went on to say, "At the beginning of each school year, the community assistants attend training activities as specified by OSHA, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (a division of the US department of labor), in the summer one night a week." Their training includes counseling techniques, crisis intervention, office procedures and calendar programming for community and social activities.

The apartment staff and director gives the residents a housing contract listing the community policies for on-campus housing. It outlines important campus life matters, such as safety and security, community living and cleanliness issues.

There are safety and security advantages for residents choosing to live in the small community. Features such as a six-foot perimeter fence around the housing, limited access gates, telephone screening system or front-gate call boxes, dead bolt locks on room doors and personal security tips for being inside and outside of the apartment are all provided to the students by the apartment staff. A community assistant leader is designated to patrol the area during the day and night hours throughout the entire week including holidays and weekends, all to enforce rules and to ensure peaceful, independent living among the students. Manson said, "The CA's serve as mediators for disputes between students. This is to teach the students about the extent of the impact they have on each other's lives."

However, there is a small disadvantage to campus living. No college campus is immune to the many pressing issues and social dilemmas that affect our society as a whole. Manson said, "This is a relatively secure environment but people must act responsibly to ensure their own well-being by being aware of the safety and security guidelines implemented because we cannot make absolute safety and security guarantees to our residents."

Crime is not a prevalent problem in this gated community. Ultimately, the University Court Apartments has maintained its impeccable reputation for safe and secure on-campus living.



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Dr. Carlos Spaht receives Presidential award at the White House for work with LaPREP program at LSUS

by Mark Rogers

Dr. Carlos Spaht II received the 2000 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring during a White House ceremony Sept. 7, for his work with the LaPREP Program, a summer enrichment program for middle and high school student held at LSUS. The goal of LaPREP is to encourage students to complete a college program by developing their problem solving, abstract reasoning, and writing skills. In addition to the Presidential award, the program will also receive $10,000 to help further its efforts.

Spaht began the LaPREP program in 1993 and received national recognition in 1998 by accepting the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis Award for Greatest Public Service Benefiting Local Communities during a ceremony at the U.S. Supreme Court hosted by Justice Sandra Day O'Conner.

SGA Needs Committee Members

by Scott Balcerzak

During the Aug. 31st Student Government Meeting, there was a plea to students to help fill open committee seats. The committees will deal with internal matters within the SGA and report their findings to the senators during forthcoming meetings. A student does not have to be a member of the SGA to be a committee member, though the heads of the committees have to be senators.

"It's a great way for people at LSUS to get involved and talk about interesting subjects," said Jason Penry, SGA president. Penry also urged any students interested in filling such positions to call his office number, 797-5342 or his home number, 798-6665. Interested students could also show up to a future SGA meeting.

Other issues brought up for discussion included the possible creation of a new committee to address issues at the University Court Apartments and the possibility of revising the academic catalog, two issues brought up by Senator Madiha Jamil. There was also the issue of attempting to declare a day off for the upcoming federal election in November, a proposal currently being drafted by Senator Brad Bowen. The SGA meets every Thursday at 10:30 A.M. in the Webster Room of the University Center.

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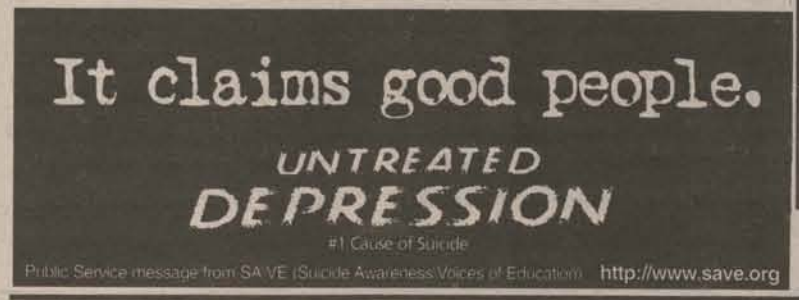
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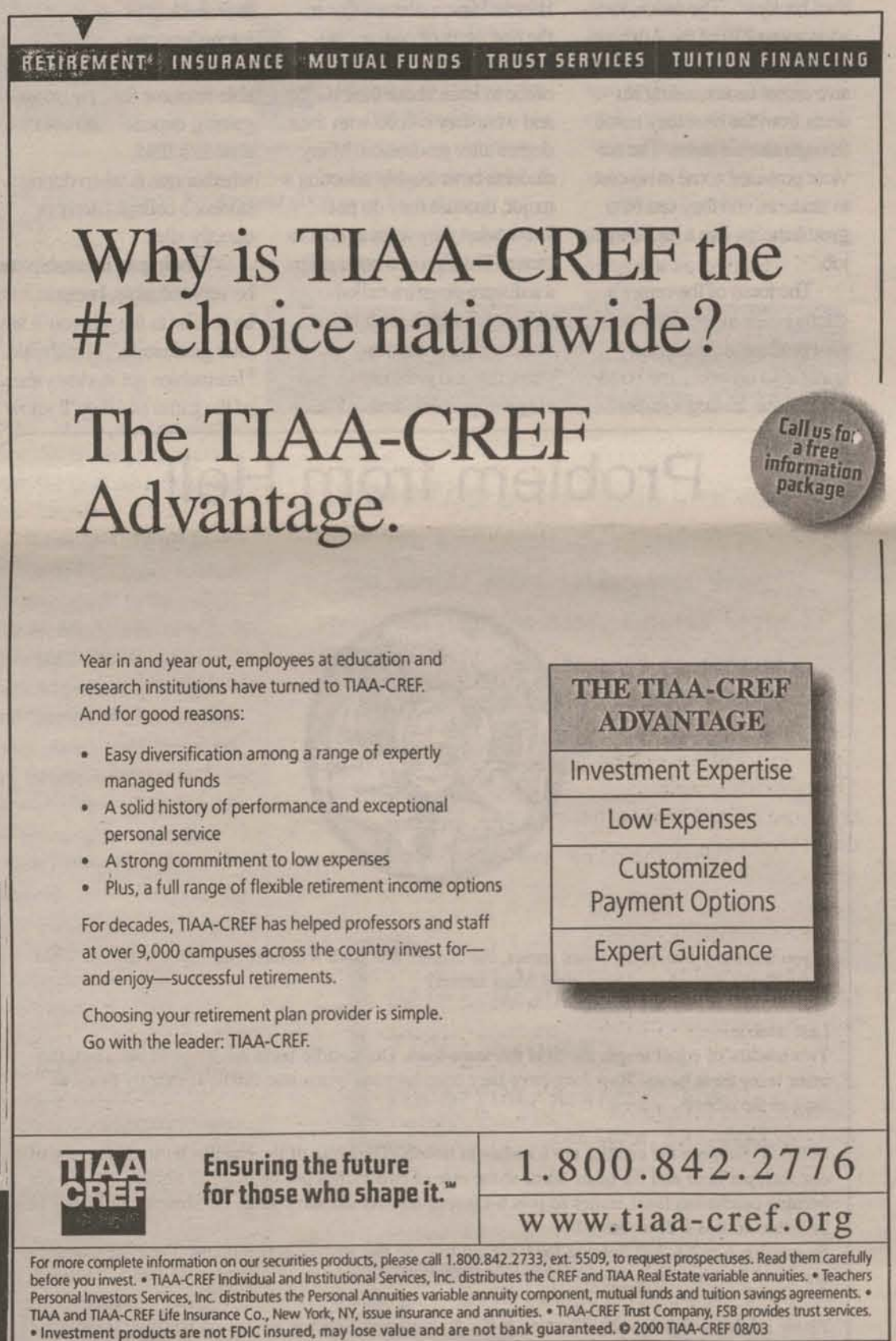
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Career Center offers employment resources to LSUS students

by Karen Knotts

As many college graduates can attest, finding a job after graduation can be a frustrating ordeal. The good news? LSUS offers its students a resource to make the job search easier and more productive.

The LSUS Career Center can be like striking gold in your own backyard. The office, located in room 230 of the Administration building, is a comprehensive career center, aiding students from the time they enroll through alumni status. The services provided come at no cost to students, and they can reap great benefits, like a high-paying job.

The focus of the center's efforts is helping students prepare professional resumes, learning to network, and building towards finding a career with the close assistance of the Career Center's staff, under the direction of Dr. Brian Hirsch.

But, the key to using the Career Center to its maximum potential is not to put it off until senior year.

"Students shouldn't wait. If they are struggling with choosing a major or a career, the earlier they learn about the process, the better off they'll be," said Hirsch. Hirsch stresses that in the first years of college, students should start contacting the office to learn about their major and what they can do with their degree after graduation. Many students have trouble selecting a major, because they do not know what they want to do as a career. The Career Center offers a software program called "Choices" which evaluates a student's likes, dislikes, strengths, and weaknesses and suggests possible areas of study and career options. This program is available to all students who are interested.

Photo by Mark Rogers

Dr. Brian Hirsch, Career Center director

Students can also familiarize themselves with the services the office provides, and be advised to how they can start gaining experience in their fields now. Internships can be a most-valuable resource for gaining experience in a field, whether one is taken during a student's college career or directly after.

"Finding an internship can be very valuable, because it will be similar to the job you'll have after graduation," Hirsch said. "Internships get students ahead of the game and they'll know what sorts of things they like to do and don't like to do. Experience is all-important. Those who have had an internship tend to get hired at a higher rate of pay, and advance faster."

Junior and senior level students should visit the Career Center to begin preparing for the inevitable job search. The Career Center advises upper-level students to build a network of references, while getting involved with field-related organizations.

"On average, it takes about six months to find a job after graduation. The job market is great right now, but employers are more selective in terms of finding the right person for the job," Hirsch said.

A polished resume is essential to making an impression on possible employers, and the Career Center makes resume-writing a top priority for its advisees. Once a resume is written, the office will keep it on file to pass along to employers who inquire. The center does not "find" students jobs, but will closely aid and suggest options for the search.

The Career Center runs several important programs on campus, in which all students should participate. The annual Career Fair will be held on October 3, and is a good stepping-stone towards a successful career search. The fair is open to all students and alumni. Many major employers will be on campus, interviewing students and giving out information on the skills and requirements of their positions.

Hirsch said that students should take into consideration the impression they will make on the employers.

"Students need to come looking like they want to get hired. Looking sharp is a good idea, and it lets employers know that LSUS graduates take finding a good job seriously."

The educational value of the Career Fair is paramount, because students are able to talk to actual employers. The fair opens doors to learning what types of positions are available at major companies. For example, Wal-Mart has careers in public relations, marketing and environmental science. A team of people in various professional roles supports most companies.

Some employers present will have full-time and part-time positions available. A few of the companies participating are: Merrill Lynch, Christus Schumpert, Kaplan Educational Center, C.H. Robinson and Enterprise-Rent-A-Car. To get complete listings of companies involved, contact the Career Center office.

Hirsch leads a series of instructional workshops for different aspects of career preparation, called the Career Success Series. These basic workshops are held during common hour, and give a framework for creating resumes, networking, interviewing, and structuring the job search. An interviewing workshop is scheduled for Sept. 19, at 10:30 a.m. in the Red River Room. On Sept. 26, Hirsch will lead a workshop on organizing the job search, also at 10:30 a.m. in the Red River Room.

Students can access the center's website at www.lsus.edu/career. This site offers some job listings, both part-time and full-time. Last month, the site had about 100 listings. There are informational links to other sites about careers, and job-hunting. The website is also a great asset in determining the types of skills and experience one will need to apply for jobs in a particular field. Going to the Student Life section of the LSUS website and selecting Career Center can also gain access to the site.

Problem from Hell

If you meet any two of the Jones sisters, the chance that both will have blue eyes is 50/50. What is the likeliest number of blue-eyed Jones sisters?

Last issue's:
Two candles of equal length are lit at the same time. One candle takes six hours to burn out; the other takes three hours. How long have they been burning when one candle is exactly twice as long as the other?

Solution: Suppose the candles are 6 inches in length. Then one of the candles burns at the rate of one inch per hour and the other burns at the rate of two inches per hour. After t hours, the slower burning candle has lost t inches so it is 6-t inches tall. At the same time, the slower candle has lost 2t inches so it is 6-2t inches tall.
So when is 6-t=2(6-2t)? Solving for t, we get t=2. So the answer is two hours. Then the candles are 4 and 2 inches long.

Please submit your answers in writing to Dr. Vekovius in Science 104, or on the Internet to vekovius@pilot.lsus.edu. Indulgences will be granted for correct answer. Other plan for severe heat...

Robotics lab to offer upgraded technical training to students

by Kahalia Barley

Since 1996 Dr. Reza Sanati-Mehrizy has been writing and sending proposals off to the state and the National Science Foundation for money to build a state-of-the-art robotics lab on campus. Over the years Dr. Sanati, associate professor of computer sciences, has received thousands of dollars in funds from the state of Louisiana to build what he describes as a valuable asset to LSUS students and faculty. The facility can be used off campus and the training involved can be utilized even after graduation, Sanati said.

The grant money will also be used to upgrade the robotics lab in the Business and Education Building and finish the completion of two other labs: the Computer Integrated Lab in Room 206 of the Old Library and the CAD & Welding lab (Computer Aided Design), which is next door. Also, the funding is used to teach and write the course, buy robotic arms and provide new hardware and software.

Photo by Mark Rogers

Dr. Sanati in the robotics lab on the second floor of the Old Library

The labs will also enable local factories-such as GMC, Lucent Technologies, and Fry Master-to send their employees to LSUS to be trained. A lack of robotics training facilities in the area has caused companies to send their employees elsewhere to train. The need for robotics training is increasing as more and more companies are making use of the technology, Sanati said. A number of area corporations have begun to incorporate the use of robotics into their specific fields.

The labs will enable teach students and faculty members to use computers to control robotic arms and control manufacturing systems. Students and faculty can learn how to control equipment that controls the robotic arms and how to write programs that control arms.

This kind of equipment and technology, Sanati said, makes a worker "more marketable and valuable."

The labs will be completed next spring, and an open house will be announced.

KDAQ targets new audience

by Jennifer Knafla

Si B. Sikes, new acting general manager for Red River public radio, looks to broaden and expand the station's targeted audience. The station, heard locally as KDAQ and known for its classical play list, is trying to attract a new hip audience while still exposing the listeners to the arts.

Photo by Mark Rogers

Si B. Sikes, new acting general manager for KDAQ

Sikes graduated from Centenary College with a bachelor's degree in political science. Before joining the staff at KDAQ, he was admissions counselor at Centenary and was in the Peace Corps in Africa.

So what is he doing in public radio? "It's not something I planned," said Sikes.

He first took a part-time job at KDAQ three years ago as a way to pass the time before graduate school. Now he is the acting general manager. "I just really enjoy the relationship you get with listeners," said Sikes.

As of late, the relationship has paid off in ratings. Sikes' primary goal for the station is to expand the targeted audience. The classical music that the station plays draws in mostly an older audience.

However, Sikes said that the station is now trying to attract a younger crowd while still exposing the audience to the arts. The station plays Jazz and Blues music at night to attract a "hipper audience."

Sikes said, "We're also trying to disprove the notion that kids don't listen to the news." He is referring to the news reports the station posts, also targeted toward the younger audience.

The radio station recently saw a big jump in its ratings. Sikes attributes this to the station's goal to broaden its listeners. By expanding the programs with the arts that appeal to the younger audience, Sikes seeks to accomplish the goal of developing new listeners.

Sikes said that all the staff members seem to share a commitment to the radio station. Sikes, who is only 29, has a staff whose oldest members are only in their mid-thirties. With comparatively young staff members and limited experience, Sikes attests to his goal to expose the newer generation to a variety of the arts. He believes that his political science degree keeps him aware and helps him to focus the programs of the station.

"I know I am young," said Sikes, but he contends that he is very committed to the radio station. He welcomes anyone to come into the KDAQ station's office to take advantage of the open-door policy.

Sikes said he would continue to try to reach the younger audience and to develop new listeners through the arts.

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Got music? Here are some recommendations

Cracker, *GARAGE D'OR*

by Jeremy Johnson

You may remember Cracker's hit song "Low" from 1994, which was featured heavily on MTV's Buzzbin.

C'mon, think back. Yeah...that one. Cool song, wasn't it?

Although Cracker may have reached the height of their mainstream popularity in the early nineties, they've continued to record and tour, gaining a large cult following across the United States. Earlier this year, Virgin Records released a 2-disc retrospective, *Garage D'Or*, featuring some of the band's best work from their four studio albums along with b-sides, live songs, and rarities.

The first disc opens with the blistering "Teen Angst (What the World Needs Now)" from their first release, *Cracker Brand*. The CD continues with selections from *Kerosene Hat* , *The Golden Age*, and *Gentleman's Blues* including "Sweet Thistle Pie" and the eight-minute epic "Euro-Trash Girl." Wrapping up the first disc are three new songs, showing Cracker's still got what it takes to write great rock n' roll.

Garage D'Or's second disc highlights b-sides and live selections. Opening with "Surfbilly," the CD courses through many interesting selections, including covers of The Carpenter's "Rainy Days and Mondays" and a live performance of Bob Dylan's "You Ain't Going Nowhere" featuring Joan Osborne and Counting Crows' Adam Duritz.

I personally don't love an

Continued next column

Fishbone, *FISHBONE & THE FAMILYHOOD NEXTPERIENCE PRESENTS... THE PSYCHOTIC FRIENDS NUTTWERX*

by Chris Alexander

March on Fishbone soldiers! You all have reason to celebrate. That's right they are back with yet another beautiful assortment of music. Although the title is a little long, there are definitely some positive things to be said about this CD. The first thing is that it is not Britney "slut" Spears, thank you lord. The second thing is that it kicks total ass. Many people ask before buying a CD, "Am I going to like this?" My answer to all of you is yes. If you don't I am sure I can find someone with real musical taste to buy it from you.

Fishbone's latest record is better than a dead fish on a stick. Fishbone has been around since their first release in 1980, they have recorded and released many CD's since then. On the *Nuttwerx* CD they have returned to their roots and traded their harder sound for a Zappa-like, funk gospel, R&B, and reggae type of music. That is the only way I have been able to describe it. Most people say, "No big deal!" But try to mix that many genres of music together and see what you can come up with. If it doesn't sound like the Backstreet Boys getting their asses kicked by Chuck Berry, Cindy Lauper and the Tele-tubbies I'll give you a hug. This CD is real laid back and does have its moments when it gets a little easy going. However, as soon as your interest turns away, it grabs you by the jewels and makes you shake your booty.

Some of the highlights of the CD include: every track! But most notable are "Where'd you Get Those Pants" a kind of ska punk sound that is backed up with some pretty kicking rhythm and vocal tracks. "Everybody is a Star" which features George Clinton, Gwen Stefani, Rick James, and Perry Farrell.

It is available at just about any record store on the Hollywood records label. It is certainly not a CD you want to pass up, definitely one you want to play at your next keg party (hopefully you made your own beer, it's cheaper) and it will surely entertain you and get your mind off of your raised tuition.

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album unless I'm satisfied with every track. The 28 awesome songs on this retrospective showcase the musical ability of David Lowery and Johnny Hickman, Cracker's core members, satisfying a long-time fan like myself.

The CD also serves as a good jumping on point for new listeners, giving them an idea of what Cracker is, and continues, to be about. However, to get the "full effect," one should acquire Cracker's other offerings and get to know one of the best virtually unknown bands out there today.

Creed, *HUMAN CLAY*

by Leah Forister

This is Creed's second CD, and although it's the same style as the first (*My Own Prison*), I feel it is an improvement. This great alternative rock band proves with this CD that they're going to last in the music business.

Human Clay provides a good selection of Creed's music. They sound great, but they also have an interesting quality. Although their music has an almost hard rock sound to it, every song has a clear message or story, and there is rarely any profanity. This is very rare of this type of band. Most bands with their type of sound have lyrics that either don't make sense or speak of hateful things. *Arms Wide Open*, for example, is a song from a father to his new baby. You have to listen closely, however, to catch the messages. Because of such lyrics, it has often been speculated that Creed is a Christian band. This is not the case, but some members of the band are Christians.

Human Clay is a great CD for getting pumped up. Its alternative/hard rock sound provides what many of us crave before going out to party. It's also just great listening anytime. Scott Stapp, lead vocalist, has a voice that also adds greatly to the music, because it's very unusual sounding. Overall, this is a great CD! Five stars!

Macy Gray, *MACY GRAY ON HOW LIFE IS*

by Scott Balcerzak

In this summer's array of overplayed top-forty singles, Macy Gray's "I Try" offered a refreshingly soulful relief from the teen pop and commercialized hip-hop that seemed to dominate the radio dial. With the release of this one single, Gray appeared to emerge as an interesting and much-needed harkening back to the soul music of the past. Her voice is certainly distinctive enough to make an impact on listeners; a sort of Billie Holiday meets Tina Turner. But when you move your focus away from this one single and toward her album *Macy Gray On How Life Is* (Epic Records), you cannot help but define her as a singer who is still deciding upon which type of sound to wrap her distinctive voice around.

The surprising thing about Gray's wonderfully raspy vocals is the way they fit perfectly into all these different types of sounds. It makes just as much sense to hear her vocals in the soulful "I Try" as it does to hear them in the funky "Sex-o-matic Venus Freak," which sounds like a variation on a Prince song. As a lyric writer (the music was written by a variety of different musicians), Gray does have the good sense to realize that her voice works best when matched with, if not simple, unpretentious lyrics, as in her current single "Why Didn't You Call Me" and in the equally entertaining "I Can't Wait to Meetchu."

Overall, this indecisiveness in style creates a rather disjointed feeling for

Continued next column

for the next time you go music shopping

Eminem, *THE MARSHALL MATHERS LP*

by Mark Rogers

"It's the return of the 'Aw wait, no way, no kidding, he didn't just say what I think he did, did he?'"

That line from "The Real Slim Shady" (*The Marshall Mathers* LP's first single release) is an apt warning and advertisement to all. As overplayed as that single is on our local radio, its solid bass-line combined with a unique keyboard riff provides a pleasing background to Slim's quick, tricky rhymes and outrageous lyrics, just like the rest of the CD. Although the subject matter can be downright disgusting (even for me), there is no denying that this CD is well produced, well mixed, and was meticulously written by either a genius or a sociopath trying to express his view of the world through a creative medium

The album begins with a public service insult from Slim Shady followed by "Kill You" an angry song in which Shady expresses his feelings about stardom and the lack of privacy. "Stan" comes next and is a parody of letters from an insane fan self-driven to suicide. It ends on an eerie, almost guilty or regretful note as Shady offers advice and concern in a belated reply.

Throughout the album, Shady varies his tone has he raps about things like parental supervision, armed robbery, gay bashing, his toddler daughter, his abusive mother, his ex-wife, the downside of being a star, rape, murder and hurls brutal insults against a large number of famous people. Mostly angry, sometimes sentimental, this CD may make you flinch, but I guarantee you won't be bored.

With three different personalities (Marshall Mathers, Eminem and Slim Shady are implied personalities of the same person), nine guest artists, and three skits mixed in with the songs, this album has a lot of action and it's all held together and polished with Shady's unique rapping style. Slim's English is easy to understand since he uses a great deal of profanity and very little slang or jargon, and his voice is easy to listen to and understand. His style is so smooth and rapid that it's hard to believe that all the phrases have meaning and that they're not just a bunch of gibberish put together to sound good. (No way, no kidding, he didn't just say what I think he did, did he?)

Listening to *The Marshall Mathers LP* is like watching someone pour a jigsaw puzzle out of the box high over a table, and as the pieces fall, they magically assemble so that the puzzle puts itself together to form a picture of a murdered baby. Simultaneously graceful and gruesome. Don't buy it. Steal it.

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the album, which is probably due to her youth and continuing growth as an artist. That is not to say that within these different styles there is not a collection of very well-done songs, a fact which makes the CD feel almost like a compilation album rather than a singular artist's vision. And to Gray's credit, it is certainly a compilation worth listening to.

Matchbox Twenty, *MAD SEASON*

by Leah Forrester

If you are a fan of Matchbox Twenty, I know you were thrilled when they finally released their next CD, almost three years after their last one. However, I believe it was worth the wait. And those of you who have never had the pleasure of listening to this awesome band, you're in for a treat with this CD!

Mad Season offers the same rhythm and sound that Matchbox Twenty is famous for, with a new twist. This CD shows a fresh, more mature, year 2000 Matchbox Twenty. (They even changed their name from Matchbox 20 to Matchbox Twenty to mature their image.) The alternative rock band sounds almost like a combination of alternative rock, jazz, and grunge, if that's possible. For any of you that are tired of the same old type of music they constantly play on the radio, this CD is for you, because it sounds different from most types of music. It has its own sound.

A combination of both upbeat and slow songs can be found on *Mad Season*. And every song is great! Well, at least, I haven't found one I don't enjoy listening to! It's also a great universal CD, in that it can be listened to pretty much anytime: while driving in the car, hanging out at home, at parties, to get pumped up before going out, to wind down in the evening, whatever!

As a Matchbox Twenty fan, I guess I'm biased, but I think this CD rocks! I give it four stars, no five, no six.

Vertical Horizon, *EVERYTHING YOU WANT*

by Raechal Leone

Great taste, less filling: An appropriate phrase to describe Vertical Horizon's latest effort, *Everything You Want*.

The sound of the CD is smooth and refreshing with a bit of an edge, yet light enough to enjoy in mass quantities. However, the music seems a little watered down at some points.

Vertical Horizon's lyrics share intimate feelings with listeners behind sometimes cheerful, always catchy instrumental backgrounds. The lyrics shine here, and unless the listener pays close attention to them, he probably won't feel too strongly about the CD, one way or the other.

The four-piece band strums out mellow, but guitar heavy rifts in a style similar to that of Matchbox 20 or the Gin Blossoms. Although the band's sound probably isn't hard enough to fall into the rock category, Vertical Horizon's music has too much depth to be dismissed as pop.

For instance, the title song tells of a girl needing to find confidence and love from within herself, but desperately seeking a man to give it to her. No matter how much men care about her, she still feels empty inside.

The theme of self-examination and exploration continues throughout the album, which was written almost solely by lead vocalist Matthew Scannell.

In "Finding Me," Scannell writes of being afraid to let himself go and trust in a relationship. The light, upbeat sound of this song has the potential to be a radio hit, as does "Send it Up," which compares a strong relationship to a cure-all for life and depression.

Scannell refers to loneliness and self-doubt in all of the darker songs on the album, leading the listener to believe he may be dealing with a self-esteem problem. This is the case in "You're a God," the group's latest single, in which the singer fears getting hurt so much that he wants to end the relationship.

In "All of You," the lyrics include the phrase "I tend to think I'm getting nowhere," and have Scannell pleading for a lover to stay, which he does in several other songs as well.

The listener gets the feeling that the source of Scannell's depression may be a recently failed relationship in which his partner had the upper hand. Anyone who carefully listens to the entire *Everything You Want* CD will feel like they have just shared a long, soul-barring conversation with Scannell.

Only one of the 11 tracks on the album was not written by lead singer Scannell. "Shackled" was written by Vertical Horizon's acoustic guitarist and vocalist Keith Kane.

The track is a noticeable deviation from Scannell's short, choppy lyrics, and borders on a hard rock sound, similar to that of Black Lab or Fuel. The fact that the group placed "Shackled" last on the album shows that they were calling attention to it, but that wasn't necessary.

The song sounds like a totally different group is performing it, a welcome change for listeners by the end of an emotionally charged, but sometimes bland sounding album.

Perhaps neither Scannell or Kane is a better songwriter than the other, but with this much talent in one group, the listener wonders why the duo didn't split songwriting duties down the middle to give the album a more diverse sound.

Sororities rushed to recruit new members, will rush again in spring

by Raechal Leone

The Panhellenic Council sponsored formal membership recruitment weekend for the two sororities on campus Aug. 25- 28.

During the first three days of membership recruitment, commonly referred to as rush, potential members attended two parties each day, one hosted by each sorority. The purpose of the parties was to give both the sorority women and potential members an opportunity to get acquainted.

"Rush gives entering freshman and upperclassmen a chance to view Greek life objectively," said Angela Neal, a senior sociology major and a member of Zeta Tau Alpha. "Each sorority is allowed to present what makes them unique, and potential members get a feel for which group of girls they connect with."

On Friday, each sorority's party involved their philanthropy, the charity or cause the sorority has chosen to support through service projects and donations.

Potential members attended a theme party on Saturday, and a preference party on Sunday. The more formal preference party was the last chance potential members had to interact with the sorority women before selecting a sorority.

"By the end of rush weekend, the new girls are usually confident about their decision," said Neal, who also serves as secretary of the Panhellenic Council.

Photo by Shannon Murphy

Phi Mu members recruiting pledges for rush during common hour

After each potential member, or rushee, listed her first and second choice sorority, the sororities made an ordered list of the potential members to whom they wanted to extend a bid, an invitation for membership.

The preferences of the potential members and the sorority members were sorted out in the complicated process of bid matching. Of course, neither the potential or active members saw the lists of preferences.

On the last day of rush, potential members received their bid cards and spent time with their new sorority. This fall, six students pledged Phi Mu and five students pledged Zeta Tau Alpha.

Although this is a small number compared to the number of students who join sororities on other campuses, some sorority women consider a smaller chapter an advantage.

"The whole chapter is close and not split into groups. We all have a chance to get to know each other really well and get close really quick," said Karla Hester, junior accounting major and president of Phi Mu.

Neal agrees that having fewer sorority members just means that the members who are involved "...Become an important part of each other's lives."

Despite the close relationship sorority actives claim to have with new members, many people associate pledging a Greek organization with participating in embarrassing activities, or being forced to act in a degrading manner. However, sorority members argue that new members will not be treated much differently than older members.

"They are never made to do anything that active members don't do because that would be considered hazing," said Hester. New members of Phi Mu will be expected to participate in chapter events and new member classes.

According to Neal, new members of Zeta Tau Alpha will be involved in a mentor program with older members and a retreat for new members, as well as regular chapter activities.

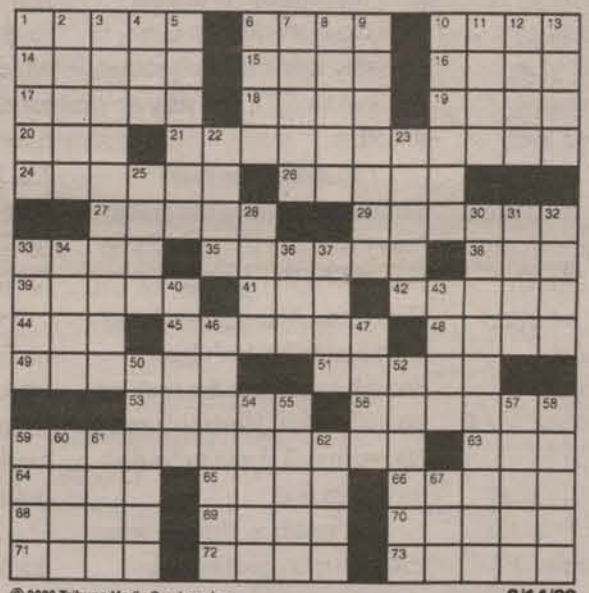
Another assumption people make about Greeks is that the members are buying their friends, but Hester says this is an unfair judgment since many organizations collect dues from their members.

"I really wish the people who say that could go through this whole experience and see exactly what it is all about and why we all mean so much to each other," said Hester.

According to Neal, a sorority operates much like a business, with money needed for the chapter's local and national philanthropy, salaries of those employed by the organization's national office and decorations and materials for rush.

Although formal membership recruitment has ended for this semester, Panhellenic Council will organize another rush in the spring.

Crossword



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ACROSS
1 "The __ House Rules"
6 Killer whale
10 Soft drink
14 Way to bring 'em back
15 Saucy and spirited
16 Actor Bates
17 Sieved into pellets
18 Send forth
19 Lost traction
20 Brewer's tub
21 Factual film
24 Corrected, as manuscript
26 Toledo mister
27 Property holder
29 Moving masses of people
33 Brief skirt
35 Bigotry
38 Geisha's sash
39 Guam port
41 Apple computer
42 Fancy cravat
44 Rocky crag
45 Valve attachment
48 Painter Holbein
49 Assignations
51 12-step program
53 Panorama
56 Lose weight
59 Not needed
63 Fall behind
64 Rad!
65 Bradbury and Charles
66 Tragedy
68 Oaf
69 Difficult journey
70 Broadcast
71 Boleyn or Bancroft
72 Mach+ jets
73 Spinning toys

DOWN
1 Slice the turkey
2 Homeric opus
3 Basic reference book
4 Night before
5 Blush
6 Oil cartel
7 Story-telling uncle
8 What doesn't pay?
9 Goes to
10 Cuban leader
11 __ podrida
12 Hideaway
13 Gibb or Garcia
22 Baltic Sea feeder
23 Actress Shearer
25 Castor or Pollux
28 Interstate entrance
30 Stock of words
31 Poetical black
32 Tends the children
33 Dillon or Damon
34 Borodin opera, "Prince __"
36 Ballplayer's hat
37 Cake finisher
40 Top room
43 Roe producer
46 Maintains
47 Guam or Yukon: abbr.
50 Gracefully slender
52 Prime
54 Russian rulers
55 So far
57 Walk-on part
58 Euphemistic oath
59 USC rival
60 12:00
61 Person, place or thing
62 Questions
67 "__ Bravo"

Solutions

Fraternities across U.S. forced to dry up their acts

by Claire Zulkey Campus Correspondent Georgetown University September 06, 2000

Sadly, the wrench in the college fraternity system has practically become old news. The incidences of alcohol poisoning, drug overdoses and date rapes in the news have blended together, creating an altogether unsteady foundation for the fraternity system.

School officials, family members, and the media are searching for answers, closing down houses, and arresting students, laying blame whole-heartedly on everything from underage drinking to the movie "Animal House."

Many colleges are laying down a firm new law: since their fraternities cannot handle drinking responsibly in their houses, they should not drink at all on campus. The concept of a dry fraternity is met with two reactions: "It'll never happen," and "What is the point of an alcohol-free frat?" However, it may not be the fairy tale many believe it to be.

"By July 1, 2001, all our chapters will be alcohol-free, no matter what," said Robert Biggs, executive vice president of Phi Delta Theta.

"Our target is to by dry by August 1, 2001," said Keith Gilchrist, executive director of Alpha Kappa Lambda.

And so it goes for about 10 more fraternities, who, out of 66 national fraternities, represent approximately a quarter of the Greek system that will be officially dry: that is, no alcohol allowed on premises.

"We wanted to rid the cancer of the misuse and abuse of alcohol," said Biggs.

National fraternities have recognized a problem with chapters that have are now out of control.

"Over the last 15 years or so, we have had occasional problems," said Gilchrist. "Injuries, property damage. At least there haven't been any deaths."

According to Dr. Richard McKaig, the Executive Director of the Indiana University Center for the Study of the College Fraternity, there has been a marked drop in overall fraternity membership due to such problems as those listed by Gilchrist.However, while fraternities monitored the growing problems with out-of-control partying, experts also noticed interesting trends with fraternities that do not allow drinking on premises.

"The scholarship funding goes up, the membership goes up, the incidents of abuse to property go down, and the insurance premiums go down," said Jon Williamson, the Executive Vice President at the North American Interfraternity Conference.

"There will still be drinking," points out Gerardo Gonzalez, the Dean of the School of Education at Indiana University, "But they are contributing to the attitude that alcohol does not need to be the center of attention."

However, not all fraternity experts see much use in eliminating the use of alcohol on campus.

"There are too many concerns about how it is going to be reinforced," said Tom Goodale, the Executive Director of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. "We can't control 9,000 lives. Students will be drinking. Most come to college with their alcohol patterns already in place. We simply need to make allowances for mistakes, and the students must be responsible to themselves."

Goodale finds that the concept of 'binge drinking' (defined as having five or more drinks in one sitting, more than once every two weeks) is part of media hype. Each tragic situation is completely different.

Sometimes it is the fault of the fraternity, sometimes it is the fault of the individual. Goodale is in favor of drinking responsibly, but not denying alcohol in its entirety.

"We try to use character education, and make students think about whether the things they do with their friends are what they would like their family members to see them doing," he said. Goodale is a major advocate of BACCHUS and GAMMA, large North American orgnanizations which stand for Boosting Alcohol Consciousness Concerning the Health of University Students/ Greeks Advocating Mature Management of Alcohol. Goodale's point is that while fraternities themselves will not have alcohol allowed on premises, this does nothing to prevent binge drinking at events located off campus.

Dean Kelly, a junior at the University of Missouri and a member of Alpha Kappa Lambda, agrees with part of Goodale's criticism of going dry. UM's alcohol policy for AKL came into effect August 1, 2000.

"There may be an increase in drunk driving, since the parties will be off campus. They might charter buses, but not everybody will be able to take them. It just might be a downside to the frat going dry," Kelly said.

Lissa Bradford is the Immediate Past Chairman Co-Chair of the National Panhellenic Conference, which represents the 26 female fraternities, or sororities. The NPC in general holds a policy where sororities will not co-sponsor an event with a fraternity unless the fraternity is dry. "The dry policies are good for the fraternity system, and without our support, the effort will fail. We are just trying to create a level playing field, without giving advantage to alcohol-serving fraternities," Bradford said.

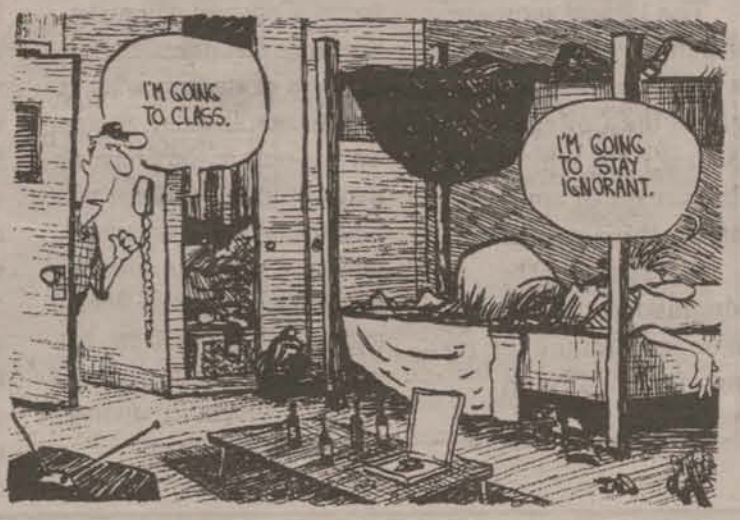
With regards to concerns about drunk driving, Bradford retorts, "Sorority events involving alcohol have always been off campus. The sisters don't try to fight it, because they can't. They find some sort of transportation, and they know that it is the best way. It may not be the cheapest or most convenient, but it's the best. The men must understand that they will have to do it too. We are trying to teach personal responsibility, and there is nothing responsible about [drunk driving]."

It seems that fraternity members are taking the news of "Dry2K" in stride.

"People last semester were saying, 'Oh no, there's no longer gonna be any more fun," said Kelly, "But now we see it with a positive view, that drinking is not that important. Plus, when I am recruiting freshmen, I say 'Look, there will still be parties, and the upside is that you won't have to clean them up,' and they seem cool with it. And if it discourages people who want to be always wasted, then that's fine…I wouldn't want to hang out with those kind of people anyway, since they probably wouldn't even make it through four years of school, and would just be idiots."

Senior Matt Puett, also an MU Greek, agreed. "I think it's going to be positive to have everyone work together to help solve the ongoing problem [of alcohol abuse.] It will definitely be a lifestyle change for all of us," Puett said. "It's going to be a difficult atmosphere, but it will be a change for the better."

—TMS Campus Correspondent Caryn Rousseau contributed to this article© TMS Campus, 2000



Enrollment decrease

continued from pg. 1

"Also, the job market is going well right now, and anytime that happens, the enrollment declines."

The total number of undergrads currently registered is 3,544, with 1,183 of those students classified as freshman, but only 659 classified as sophomores. The number of juniors and seniors are slightly higher, with 778 and 825 students, respectively.

Marsala said the biggest drop in students compared to last fall is in the senior classification, which he again believes is due to students transferring to a school where more degree programs are available.

The total number of graduate students decreased by four as compared with the number of students in the fall of 1999. The total number of graduate students registered is 698, with 412 of those students enrolled in the College of Education.

The College of Education has the second highest enrollment of undergraduates, behind the College of Sciences, which saw a 12 to 13 percent drop in students compared to last year.

The largest increase of undergraduate students in an individual college was in the College of Liberal Arts, which saw an increase of approximately three percent.

Marsala said the administration will continue researching the reasons for the drop in enrollment.

Freshman enrollment increases

by Brandon Mitchell

The freshman class alone is up three percent for people that applied and are attending LSUS, according to assistant director of admissions, Julie Wilkins.

"There are a lot of areas that we cover. We do the application process, transcripts and graduation. We also help people that want to get their out-of-state fees waived in terms of maintaining grades. I work with international admission and recruiting," said Wilkins.

From the students' entrance to the university through graduation, the main goal of the office of admissions and records is to connect the students.

In addition, they are responsible for visiting high schools and encouraging students to consider LSUS.

"I chose LSUS because it was convenient and obvious that students and faculty alike had a lot of pride in their school. The academic quality and conditions of the school seemed better than the others that I had considered," said Brittaney Mitchell, a freshman predentistry major.

"I am pleased that the numbers are up," said Kathy Plante, registrar. Plante said that more people are realizing that LSUS can offer its students things they cannot always find at other schools, such as more personalized attention from the faculty.

Students should be aware of news blowing in from D.C.

by Caryn Rousseau
Washington Correspondent
September 01, 2000

Stress over buying books, finding your 9:30 a.m. class or even going to football games might become things of the past for some students. That is if Congress votes to lower Pell Grant funding or bans gambling on college sports. Congress will make decisions that directly affect the lives of students when it reconvenes Tuesday, September 5. Some of the decisions may become law. Some will stay stagnant in committees until next year. But education is a hot ticket item in Washington D.C. and you can bet that politicians want to come home in November lauding increased funding or decreased classroom size. Congress introduces thousands of pieces of legislation each year. TMS Campus gathered a short list to keep an eye on because it could affect your day-to-day life and your financial future.Pell Grant Expansion Act of 1999 This legislation could help students who find that working at the campus bookstore or Burger King still isn't making ends meet. The bill would increase the maximum available Pell Grant from $3,125 to $7,000 per student over the next three years. For now the bill is in the House's education subcommittee. Make College Affordable Act of 1999 Loving that income tax refund? Cutting past the political lingo, this legislation's goal is to change tax code to provide a full deduction for higher education expenses and a tax credit for student loans. As of right now it is in the House's Ways and Means committee and the Senate's Finance committee.Combating Illegal College and University Gambling Act No need to worry about immediate action here, but this legislation would set up a panel to investigate illegal gambling on college sports. After making investigations the panel would make recommendations to Congress to rectify any problems it finds. Right now it is in committees in both the House and the Senate, but it's not too early to rethink that Big 10 pool.International Academic Opportunity Act of 2000 Students with limited finances can receive up to $5,000 under this legislation to travel to and take classes at foreign colleges and universities. It sets aside about $1.5 million dollars for this effort. The House already passed this and it is awaiting attention in the Senate, where it is in the education committee.Campus Protection Act This legislation would require that convicted sexually violent offenders notify institutions of higher education of that status. It is still in the house awaiting attention from both the judiciary and education committees.Remember that these bills are the just the tip of the bureaucratic iceberg in Washington and that legislation, codes, decisions are made every day that affect students' lives.© TMS Campus, 2000

Biology club starts semester with Life Air visit

by Christopher Ashby

The Life Air Team made a special visit to LSUS last Thursday to speak at this semester's first Biology and Health Science Club meeting. Flight member Larry Dixey spoke to students and faculty in the SLA. His speech covered topics ranging from some of the earliest helicopters to modern MedEvac helicopters. He also gave a description of what the Life Air crew does during an emergency.

Dixey also told the audience about some of Life Air's specifications. He said that Life Air generally operates within a 150 mile radius of Shreveport and carries one or two passengers, other than crew members, per flight. Dixey also explained the unique partnership that Life Air has between Schumpert Medical Center and the Willis-Knighton Health System since the two hospitals merged medical flights several years ago. The two hospitals now share Life Air by alternating months in which they have access to the helicopter. Following the lecture those in attendance were invited to see the helicopter close-up.

Even though fliers were placed throughout campus, the arrival of Life Air caught some students by surprise. A few ran to see what was happening while others stopped their cars to watch. Education major Kathryn Young had just arrived on campus when the helicopter landed. She said, "I had read about Life Air flying in, but I had forgotten about it until I heard all the noise."

Though Life Air added some excitement to the meeting the Biology Club is quick to add that there is much more to the club other than extravagant entrances. Club sponsor Dr. Beverly Burden said that the club has many goals other than entertainment. She said that the club is important because upperclassmen and underclassmen can get to know one another. "There is also the aspect of research," Burden said. "The Biology Club allows for students, especially juniors and seniors, to interact with faculty that is conducting research." She said that the hands-on experience that the club offers is vital to students' education.

Biology Club president Lisa Woods, a senior, said that the club is currently planning many more programs. One program will include a lecture by a veterinarian who will discuss animal surgeries. Another program being planned will profile robotic surgery techniques.

The Biology Club also plans for a canned food drive later this semester. Burden said that a faculty vs. student softball game is also being considered.

The Biology and Health Science Club welcomes all LSUS students. Dues are $10 for one year or $6 for one semester. The club meets on Tuesday or Thursdays twice per month for program meetings. Anyone interested may contact Burden for further information.

HIGHLAND CLINIC

ARE YOU SUFFERING FROM COLD SYMPTOMS?

If you are suffering from a runny nose and at least one of the following symptoms, FOR NO MORE THAN 20 HOURS,

Cough
Nasal Congestion
Sore Throat

and are able to come to the doctor's office the day you call, you may be able to participate in a research study.

Physicians at Highland Clinic are participating in a nationwide evaluation of an investigational medication being developed to treat viral respiratory infection, (VRA, a serious form of the common cold). Call:

318-798-4630

Should you qualify, you will receive at no cost to you:

Study Medication **Physical Exam**
Lab Work **Monetary compensation for travel**

New Cont. Ed. dean seeks challenge

by Krystal Williams

A new challenge and vivid imagination are two things on the mind of Dr. Severn Doughty. Doughty is now the Dean of the Division of Continuing Education and Public Service here at LSUS.

Doughty holds the position of Associate District Agent with the LSU Agricultural Center. This position requires him to supervise 55 faculty, 45 support staff, and a $2.4 million budget. Doughty has many years experience in providing programs to Louisiana citizens and also has a great relationship with the leaders in Northwest Louisiana. These roles have prepared Doughty for the position of Dean of Continuing Education and Public Service.

Challenge is the word that comes to mind for Doughty when asked what was his reason for accepting the job of dean. He said that he is always looking for something new and "challenging" to do and he feels like this is the place to be right now.

So far Doughty says he has enjoyed the campus. Doughty loves the university and feels like great things are happening right here. Northwest Louisiana has always been a favorite spot of Doughty's after having lived in the Southern portion of the state for many years. "I am just in love with the university and Northwest Louisiana in general," said Doughty.

As far as imagination is concerned the sky is the limit! The changes that will be made in the Division of Continuing Education and Public Service will begin very soon. There will be a meeting this fall of the entire staff to discuss a strategic plan which will implement new goals and objectives of the division.

Will these ideas require any extra funding for the division? This will only be able to be answered in time when it is decided what will be done but, "it is only limited by our imagination," said Doughty. He said that now we have the opportunity to gather funds from grants and donations and this avenue will be very lucrative for continuing education and for LSUS.

In the near future look for the changes that will be happening over in that portion of our campus. Students might be surprised!

The story of the veil: a misunderstanding

by Madiha Jamil

What do you think of when you hear the words *Muslim women*? For many the answer leads to images of veiled, subservient women walking distances behind men - distorted stereotypes created by numerous movies and innovative reports in the media. Today I offer you another point of view.

I am a young Muslim woman, born and raised in America. My parents migrated here from Pakistan in 1981. Growing up in America has been both fascinating and confusing; the mixing of cultures has led me to question everything I do, from my thoughts when I get up in the morning, to every aspect of my values and beliefs.

One of the obligations of a Muslim, a person who believes in the religion of Islam, is to perform a pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia, at least once in his or her lifetime. This past summer I had the opportunity of performing this pilgrimage with my family. I didn't know what to expect. In America, I had the freedom of practicing my religion as I pleased; there, I would have to undergo certain rules and actions enforced by the government, one of those requirements being a veil. What I learned this summer is that as a woman in an Islamic government, I was treated with the utmost dignity and respect. I learned my veil did much more than cover my hair; it offered me protection.

My journey began in Houston. From there, we traveled to London, then Dubai, and finally Karachi. Karachi is a city on the coast of Pakistan. After staying there for about a week, we were ready to go on our pilgrimage. I remember sitting at the airport in Karachi: My mother, sisters, and I were covered from head to toe with white head scarves and black gowns. I was excited and scared. Everything seemed so exotic. We heard our flight number so we walked to the gate and stood at the end of a very long line. Suddenly the people in front of us said, "Ladies," and pointed ahead. This airline that was going to Saudi Arabia allowed all families with females to board first. Very confused, I gave a puzzled look to my mother. She responded, "Women are highly respected here."

We arrived at the international airport in Jeddah. From there we took a cab to reach Mecca. Along the way, I noticed the endless plains of sand and hills in the Arabian Desert soon turn into tall hotels and businesses all clustered around Masjid Al-Haram, the holy mosque. We moved into our hotel, showered, and were ready for the pilgrimage. Our fifteen days in Saudi Arabia consisted of nothing but prayer, meals, and sleep. Yet I can't describe the satisfaction I felt there...to be away from all the worries of the world and just to be able to concentrate. Many times I'd walk to the mosque alone, during the day and late at night. But I never had fear of being attacked or harassed in any manner.

Staying in Mecca allowed me to make a number of observations on the treatment of women. Within the mosque, one of the first things I noticed was that husband and wife, hand in hand, would often perform their pilgrimage together. Abusive phrases were not used. Many times, families would sit together and rest under the shade of the majestic marble arches. Although some parts of the mosque were separated by sex, the separation did not pose a problem. Not only were women treated respectfully in the mosque, but outside of it also. Sometimes, crossing the busy streets frustrated drivers in their hurry to reach their destination. But when women crossed, the drivers patiently waited and let them go. My family's room was on the seventh floor of our hotel. Whenever waiting in line for the elevator, women and children always went first, regardless of how busy things were.

Many people assume wearing a veil makes you hot. I'm not sure exactly, but I think the desert temperatures were around 120 degrees Fahrenheit. Amazingly, though, I hardly ever felt hot. With virtually no humidity, sweat evaporated off very quickly. That, in addition to cool breezes, made the heat much more tolerable. I soon learned to be thankful when wearing a veil: the desert sun could very easily burn anyone's skin exposed for even a short period of time. Even men covered their heads with a range of hats, the type varying on their homeland country.

The whole point in wearing a veil is that one does not attract attention to oneself. Without a veil and without dresses of modesty, one innocent look can lead to further thoughts; we've all had experiences with this. But if considered in the light of Islam, those thoughts can sometimes lead one astray from thoughts of purity and God.

After my experience in Saudi Arabia, I now choose to wear traditional Pakistani clothes and a scarf that covers my hair. Some people might think that my scarf is a mark of oppression. Wearing a scarf is not oppression; it is equivalent to a person going to a church or synagogue, fasting during Lent, or giving sacrifices in a temple. A veil is simply a means of practicing one's religion.

One of America's greatest assets is its rich, ethnic diversity. Realistically, an American is bound to come in contact with people from other cultures. So remember the following: When coming upon a new experience, try to refrain from becoming defensive, keeping in mind that *different* is just another society's way of dealing with the universal problems in our world.

LSUS campus police blotter

eptember 6

10:00 a.m. Campus police were notified of an alleged sexual assault at the University Court partments that occured at approximately 10:00 p.m. Sept. 5th. The incident is currently under nvestigation by Campus Police and SPD.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

SAB meeting Tues. 9/12 10:30am

Flag football Sign-up All Week

Free Subs Tues. 9/19

DJ Mixing & Music Video Bingo Thurs., 9/21

Fall Fest Sept 28...watch for more details soon!

All meetings/events in the University Center.

Classified Ads

I fooled you, I fooled you. I bet the first thing you said when you picked up this paper was, "What? No Classifieds?" Well don't fret. Here they are! 25 words for $5. Deadline on Friday. Thank goodness for Classified Ads.

Wanted! Spring Breakers!
Cancun, Bahamas, Florida, & Jamaica Call Sun Coast Vacations for a free brochure and ask how you can organize a small group and **Eat, Drink, Travel Free & earn Cash!**
Call **1-888-777-4642** or e-mail sales@ suncoastvacations.com

What? You haven't gone to any classes yet? Well drop and register for

Risqué Culinary Academy

and learn to test the boundries of good taste against the better judgement of your uneducated peers!

Looking for love in all the wrong places?
Get Spanish Monkey for all your twisted urges.

Applications and nominations are being accepted through Friday, Oct. 6 for **Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.**
Applications can be obtained from your dean, dept. chair, or from the Student Affairs Office in Adm.208. Only juniors,seniors, and graduate students are eligible.

Psychotic Friends Hotline
Call
1-800-666-0000

#1 Spring Break 2001-
Cancun,Florida &S.Padre. Reliable TWA flights. Book by Oct. 1 & receive 14 FREE meals & 28 hrs. FREE parties! 1-800-SURFS-UP www.studentexpress.com

Stop studying and pop pills instead!
New technology will allow you to learn and lose weight at the same time. Each pill is equivalent to 6 hours of class and 10 hours of exercise.
Warning:could possibly cause brain explosions but what would be the point if there was no risk?

Now Hiring!
Dirty's
used pornography store desperately needs bookwashers to clean incoming porn. It's a dirty job, but someone has to do it!

Classified Ads
25 words for $5.
Deadline is Friday before publish date.
Bronson Hall #344
E.O.D. End Of Discussion

Know 3 People?
Make $900 within 3 weeks...Let me show you how (318) 925-1779 or e-mail: Rainbowluvr_@excite.com

Get paid everyday!

KIDS!
YOU JUST CAN'T BEAT 'EM!
YOU HAVE TO YELL AT 'EM, TOO.

Marjorie Lyons Playhouse (Centenary College) presents
GROSS INDECENCY: THE THREE TRIALS OF OSCAR WILDE
Sept. 21-23, 28-30 & Oct. 1
Tickets are $13 adults, $8 students
call 869-5242

eleventeen BY JEREMY JOHNSON

I DON'T GET YOU, GATSBY. IT'S 4 IN THE AFTERNOON, 95 DEGREES...
-SIP-
..AND YOU'RE DRINKING COFFEE!
BARNES-A-MILLION
OPEN 26 HRS/DAY
hee hee!
HEY MAN, COFFEE IS GREAT ANY-TIME, YOU GOT IT?!
WHATEVER YOU SAY, GRANDPA. geez...
000... LOOK AT THE TIME! I'VE GOTTA GET HOME BEFORE DARK. LET'S GO.
JOHNSON '00

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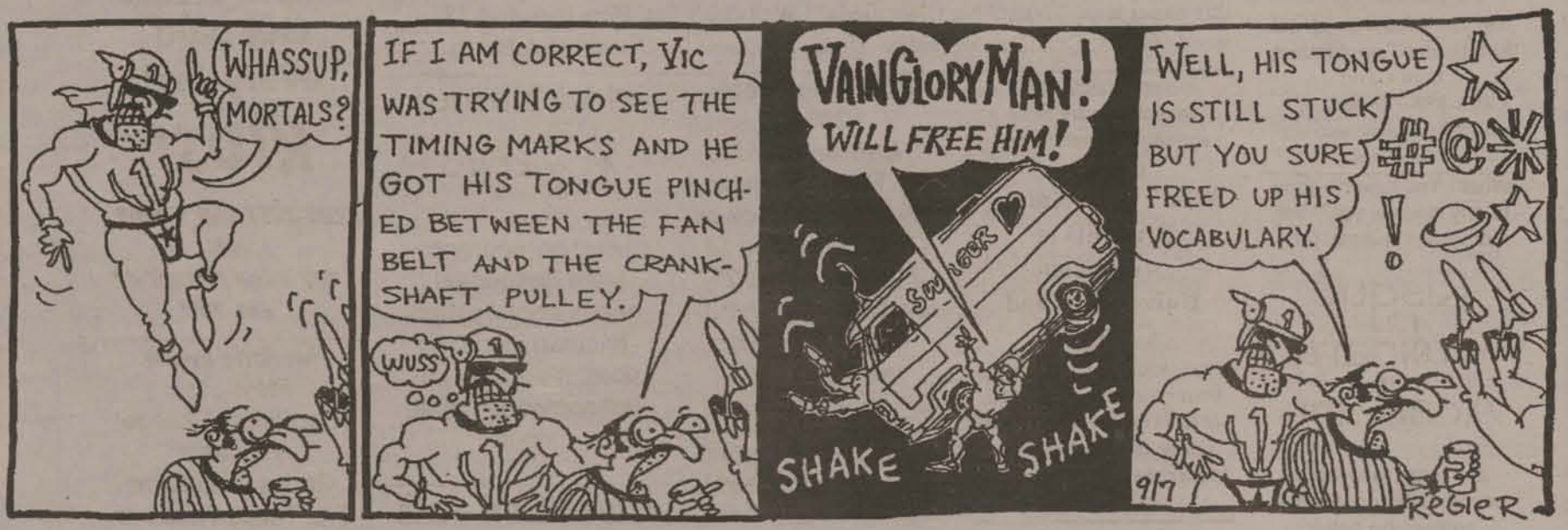
THE GONGFARMER BY RANDY REGIER

HEY VIC, WHAT'S GOIN' ON?
mmtLga gahham @*¢gm OOLLB
gah gah gahgmm bbttt Loogamt @*!★ 909L
#¢$!★ 90b
I DONT KNOW ALOT ABOUT CARS, BUT IT SOUNDS LIKE YOURE TRYING TO SAY THAT YOUR TONGUE IS PINCHED BETWEEN THE FAN BELT AND THE CRANK SHAFT PULLEY.
9/6
IF YOU DONT MIND IM GONNA HAVE ONE OF YOUR BEERS WHILE YOU FIGURE IT OUT.
OOLGB
Pccht.
REGIER


WHASSUP, MORTALS?
IF I AM CORRECT, VIC WAS TRYING TO SEE THE TIMING MARKS AND HE GOT HIS TONGUE PINCHED BETWEEN THE FAN BELT AND THE CRANK-SHAFT PULLEY.
WUSS
VAINGLORYMAN! WILL FREE HIM!
SHAKE
SHAKE
WELL, HIS TONGUE IS STILL STUCK BUT YOU SURE FREED UP HIS VOCABULARY.
#@*!
9/7
REGIER